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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.   | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/924,966   | 08/09/2001  | Hidekazu Takeyama    | P100158-00039         | 3152             |
| 23353  | 7590        | 04/06/2004           | EXAMINER              |                  |
| RADER FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC<br>LION BUILDING<br>1233 20TH STREET N.W., SUITE 501<br>WASHINGTON, DC 20036 |             |                      | JOHNSTONE, ADRIENNE C |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT              | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 1733                  |                  |

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| APPLICATION NO./<br>CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /<br>PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. AS |
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Commissioner for Patents

Adrienne C. Johnstone  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1733

Art Unit: 1733

1. The amendment filed on December 23, 2003 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because the elected invention is the species wherein the adhesive layer containing bubbles is *in the form of a foamed body impregnated with the adhesive* according to Figure 1 and not the species wherein the adhesive layer containing bubbles is "in the form of a a layer of foamed adhesive composition" according to Figure 1 as is now claimed.

Contrary to applicants arguments, in the original claims applicants used the term *bubble-containing adhesive composition layer* (see original claim 1 - the bubbles could therefore be in either a supporting body or in the adhesive itself) and not "an adhesive composition layer fabricated from an adhesive composition containing a plurality of bubbles" (which would exclude the elected species because it requires the bubbles to be in the adhesive itself rather than in the supporting body) to generically encompass the elected embodiment of a foamed body impregnated with adhesive (original claim 2), the non-elected embodiment of an adhesive composition including hollow body particles and/or foamed body particles (original claim 3), and the non-elected embodiment of a foamed adhesive composition (original claim 4) (see the specification paragraph 0022). Since claim 1 is now limited to the non-elected foamed adhesive composition embodiment (and thus renders non-elected claim 4 redundant), none of the claims now reads on the elected species.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adrienne C. Johnstone whose telephone number is (571)272-1218. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30AM-7:00PM.

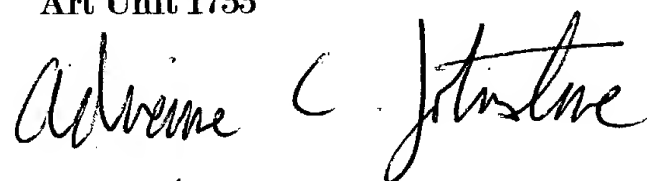
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (571)272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Adrienne Johnstone

April 5, 2004

Adrienne C. Johnstone  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1733

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adrienne C. Johnstone".